AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for monitoring files, said method comprising:

receiving a folder including at least one one or more file path identifiers each specifying a server machine and a directory;

for each of one or more of said file path identifiers in said folder:

transmitting a query to said specified server machine requesting current directory data corresponding to said specified directory, said current directory data including a file name, a created date, a modified date and a file size for each files included in said specified directory;

receiving said current directory data from said server machine in response to said query;

comparing said current directory data to a previous version of said directory data;

transmitting an alert message if a previous file size in said previous version of said directory data is larger than a corresponding said file size in said current directory data; and

storing said file path identifierserver machine, said directory and said current directory data in a monitoring database;

creating a monitoring report based on contents of the monitoring database;including said server machine, said directory and said current directory data for said one or more of said file paths; and

transmitting said monitoring report to a user.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising adding a new file path identifier to said folder.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising removing one of said file path identifiers from said folder.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

updating a recipient list associated with said folder, said recipient list including one or more e-mail addresses; and

transmitting said monitoring report to said one or more e-mail addresses included in said recipient list.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising creating a log file for said current directory data ~~for said one or more of said file paths~~ in response to said storing.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said server machine is a local machine.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said server machine is a remote machine and said query is transmitted via a network.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising presenting said current directory data ~~or said one or more of said file paths~~ to a user.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein said presenting includes displaying said current directory data in a user interface screen.

10. (canceled)

11. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising creating a trigger event for said folder, wherein said receiving a folder is in response to said trigger event.

12. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein said trigger event is a pre-selected time of day.

13. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein said trigger event is a pre-selected time interval.

14. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein said trigger event is an occurrence of a pre-specified event.

15. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said pre-specified event is a user launching a file monitoring application.

16. (currently amended) A system for monitoring files, the system comprising:

a network;

a storage device in communication with said network, wherein said storage device includes a monitoring database;

a host system in communication with said network, said host system including application software to implement a method comprising:

receiving a folder including one or more~~at least one~~ file path identifiers each specifying a server machine and a directory;

for each of~~one or more of~~ said file path identifiers in said folder:

transmitting a query via said network to said specified server machine requesting current directory data corresponding to said specified directory, said current directory data including a file name, a created date, a modified date and a file size for each file~~s~~ included in said specified directory;

receiving said current directory data from said server machine via said network in response to said query;

comparing said current directory data to a previous version of said directory data;

transmitting an alert message if a previous file size in said previous version of said directory is larger than a corresponding said file size in said current directory data; and

storing said file path identifier~~server machine, said directory~~ and said current directory data in the~~a~~ monitoring database;

creating a monitoring report based on contents of the monitoring database~~including said server machine, said directory and said current directory data for said one or more of said file paths~~; and

transmitting said monitoring report to a user.

17. (original) The system of claim 16 wherein said application software is written in visual basic.

18. (original) The system of claim 16 wherein said host system is a personal computer.

19. (original) The system of claim 16 wherein said network is the Internet.

20. (original) The system of claim 16 wherein said network in an intranet.

21. (original) The system of claim 16 wherein said monitoring database is a relational database.

22. (currently amended) A computer program product for monitoring files, the computer program product comprising:

a storage medium readable by a processing circuit and storing instructions for execution by the processing circuit for facilitating a method comprising:

receiving a folder including one or more~~at least one~~ file path identifiers each specifying a server machine and a directory;

for each of~~one or more of~~ said file path identifiers in said folder:

transmitting a query to said specified server machine requesting current directory data corresponding to said specified directory, said current directory data including a file name, a created date, a modified date and a file size for each files included in said specified directory;

receiving said current directory data from said server machine in response to said query;

comparing said current directory data to a previous version of said directory data;

transmitting an alert message if a previous file size in said previous

version of said directory data is larger than a corresponding said file size in said

current directory data; and

storing said file path identifierserver machine, said directory and said

current directory data in a monitoring database;

creating a monitoring report based on contents of the monitoring

databaseincluding said server machine, said directory and said current directory data for

said one or more of said file paths; and

transmitting said monitoring report to a user.